

**Parent Involvement Policy  
Lamar Elementary School  
Pampa, Texas**

***Statement of Purpose***

Lamar Elementary School is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child. High achievement is a goal for all children at Lamar. To attain this high goal, the school and home must work together. Parents play an important role as the child's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to the child's success.

Grade level goals for the students of Lamar Elementary are the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. These are available for parents to examine in the school office. Some children may need extra assistance available through the Title I program, as well as other programs, to reach these goals. Parents, teachers, and students all have a part in working toward high achievement.

It is important to note that the teachers and paraprofessionals at Lamar Elem. are highly qualified. Information regarding the professional qualifications of the students' classroom teachers is available to parents in the campus office as well as in the district administration building personnel office.

Assessments tell parents and teachers if the students are meeting the body of knowledge and skills that the state has established. In grades three through five the state assessments are called STAAR. Many other assessments are used at Lamar. They include Go Phonics, TEMI, I station, Woodcock Munoz, MCBM, MCAP and TTM.

Public Law 107-110, No Child Left Behind, requires that parents of children who receive Title I services must be involved in the decisions regarding how these funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.

***Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy***

An advisory committee consisting of parents, elected and appointed teachers, business members, and community members meet regularly to develop the campus Parental Involvement Policy. Parent members are chosen from school volunteers who are willing to give this gift of time and service to the campus.

***Annual Meetings for Title I Parents***

Annually Lamar Elementary School has meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in the Title I program and the requirements, as well as the parents' right to be involved.

At these meetings, which are held at times that are convenient for families, information about the school's performance, students' individual assessments, the school curriculum, and other important information is provided. Opportunities for volunteering, special classes for parents such as GED and ESL and training, and programs given by students are presented. Sometimes special community

organizations disseminate information which may be helpful to families at events like the health fair or book fair. Coordination with Head Start, Early Head Start, as well as other preschool programs is a campus goal. Parents are invited to be a part of the annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy. The results of the evaluation are used to determine strategies for school improvement. The commitment of family involvement has been approved by the Pampa ISD Board of Trustees. The evaluation of the Title I program includes how parent involvement is increasing and addresses barriers to parental participation that need to be overcome.

### ***Lamar Elem. Title I Parent Compact***

Since Lamar Elementary School is committed to providing high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, a school-parent compact is developed jointly by teachers and parents. The compact describes the responsibilities of the school and the parents to improve student performance and the means by which to do so. Student responsibilities are also described. The importance of good communication between the school and the home is emphasized and procedures such as conferences, newsletters, and contact information are included.

### ***Matching Programs to the Needs of Our Community***

Each year the campus will assess the needs of parents and children through a variety of measures including surveys, questionnaires, and parent interviews so that the Title I program can meet the needs of the community. Special programs and workshops are designed to address these needs. Parents may call the district office at 669-4700 or the campus at 669-4880 to express interests or to make suggestions.

### ***Staff/Parent Communications***

Annual parent/teacher conferences are an important feature in communications at Lamar Elem. Children also take home Thursday folders which contain important information regarding academics, special announcements, and discipline reports. The student handbook, which is distributed at the beginning of the school year, gives the conference times of teachers and the phone numbers of the school staff. Parents are encouraged to call their child's teachers when they are concerned about a problem. Lamar also has a counselor and a nurse who can assist families. Weekly emails and monthly newsletters are also provided. As much as possible, notices sent home will have both English and Spanish.

### ***Evaluation***

The committee will review and evaluate all aspects of the parent involvement program. Parents will be surveyed about the effectiveness of the program and offer suggestions for improvement. The evaluation procedure will include assessment of successes in the Parent Involvement Policy as well as recommendations for improvement in emergent areas.

